

11/76



Wow, do we have a new format for the SPARK GAP, and we do hope that you will all enjoy the new "professional" look.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. by Don Chesley
W1HVS

The Wellesley Amateur Radio Society is about to celebrate it's 25th anniversary on November 18th, 1976. Although it may have been in operation before this, our records only indicate it's inception in 1951.

We owe much of what we have today to those who began this Society and have carried it forward through the years to the present time. The Society was formed on the basis of providing a public service to the community in times of emergency and local events that came up from time to time. Now we also provide its people with technical instruction through our educational classes to enhance their knowledge of Radio. Our primary mission will be to continue to provide these services to the Community. We have now provided a very fine communications system complete with a club station which is second to none & will be upgraded as we go along, for even better operating facilities.

This anniversary celebration promises to be an exciting event. It has been in the planning stages for several months. I would like to have every member of this club join me on the 18th to celebrate together, and greet the next 25 years with great exuberance. And, in doing so, dedicate ourselves to the preservation of the

Wellesley Amateur Radio Society so we can look forward to the future when we will celebrate our 50th anniversary.

Thank you. 73's, Don Chesley.

EDITORS COLUMN.....Jim Hatherley W1TBY

It seems that as we get into the club season, the time is flying by and it was only yesterday(?) that we had our last edition ready for press. Guess that is the mark of a busy club.

In our last edition I called for some people to take up a by-line for the GAP and some have responded to the call and that is the spirit we hope to instill in each and every member, as we want you to be proud of your club. You will be reading some of their columns as we get into this letter.

Plans have been made for the 25th Anniversary celebration and an open house is in store for the night of Nov. 18th. This will be in lieu of our regular business meeting. If you have an article of interest to put on display, please let us know so we can make a proper setting for your entry. We will have a slide presentation of Field Day 76, a short movie on the raising of the 2 meter repeater antenna, (it was quite an undertaking), plus an operational console in the club room.

I know this is one meeting you will not want to miss, so plan to attend if at all possible. We will have in attendance some of the responsible people of the town of Wellesley who are interested in the welfare of the club and have worked on behalf of us, but in the background. Of course we will have refreshments too, so make it a point to be at the celebration.

W.A.R.S. continues to shine. If you look at page 80 in the November QST, you will note some familiar faces, operating the novice station at Field Day 76, out on Long Island. Our results of this exercise are also published in this edition and though we didn't come in first, we did give a good account of ourselves and hope to do even better next year. All in all, it was a lot of fun as you will see when you see the slide presentation. Maybe next year it will be your picture in QST.

MEETINGS THIS MONTH: _____

OPEN HOUSE-NOVEMBER 18, 1976 at 7:30 P.M.

Intermediate Bldg., Wellesley Hills, Mass.

WANTED: An upright or spinet piano for a reasonable price. Call Dick 655 2366.

Heathkit DX-35 transmitter, needs work.
\$20.00. For either of the above items
please call Sam Nuwayser WAlTWK at 237-
5567.

[illegible]

Hand-drawn schematic diagram of a simple electronic circuit. The circuit includes a 9V battery (B1) connected to a switch (S1). The switch is connected to a network of resistors (R1 = 2200, R2 = 100K, R3 = 10K) and capacitors (C1 = .1, C2 = .02, C3). A central component is a U1 NE555 timer. The output of the timer is connected to a speaker (LS1) and a jack (J1).

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The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, JAMES W. HATHERLEY

THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS SOLE PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, F.C.C. RULES & REGULATIONS CHANGES AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SPARK GAP AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES (TYPEWRITTEN IF POSSIBLE) TO THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OR TO THE CLUB ADDRESS.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION AND ENCOURAGED PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY-\$5.00. CLUB YEAR RUNS FROM SEPTEMBER 1 - JUNE 30. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, 324 WASHINGTON STREET WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS 02181



CLEARING THE AIR

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 614 FROM ARRL HQ TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS:

In a public notice dated Oct. 18th, Fcc announced that beginning Nov. 26, 76, amateurs in the U.S. need no longer give advance written notice to the FCC of portable operation. In addition, effective that date, U.S. amateurs operating their stations at portable or mobile locations need not identify as such. Aliens operating within the U.S. under reciprocal privileges are also freed from notifying the FCC of forthcoming portable operation, but they are still bound by the identification requirements of Part 97.313 of the FCC rules. Although the portable signing requirement will be dropped, FCC indicates that for various reasons, an amateur may continue to sign portable. AR

NEW QSL SERVICE: Did you know that the ARRL now has a QSL service for DXers? You can now send them as many QSL cards each month as you wish, and they will forward them on to their destination. All you

QSL SERVICE-CONT.

to do is send along the address label from your wrapper of QST with one dollar to help mailing costs, to ARRL-MEMBERSHIP OVERSEAS QSL SERVICE, 225 Main St., Newington, Ct. 06111. They ask you to sort out your cards by prefixes to save them time. This is a most welcome service that is being provided because DX QSLing was getting to be downright expensive. If you wish, you can read more about this service in the October issue of QST. So, dont toss your mailing wrapper away anymore.

Harmonics About Town



REPORT ON ARRL VISIT by Bob Arnold WA1UZM

The trip to ARRL Headquarters on Saturday October 23rd, did not have the turnout that had been expected, but those of us who made the trip, had a really great time both in transit and at W1AW.

Our convoy(hi...) left Wellesley at about 9:30 and kept in constant contact with each other on channel 55 direct, on the 2 meter band. The chatter on the frequency was endless, and WA1PQY was heard to comment that it sounded like a bunch of #@er's that use that other service. HI HI.

We did lose one vehicle that was not equipped with a rig, and never found him-- Where are you Dick??

Some of the information that we learned from the League may already be known by some of the membership; but please bear with me, as I feel that some of it is important enough to go over, especially for our newer members.

That interference that has been heard across the bands recently--that annoying 10 Hz pulse that sounds like a motor boat; Well, it seems that the Soviets have been testing a newly developed, RF jamming device that is capable of wiping out the spectrum between 2 & 32 MHz. During a recent test, monitoring determined that the power of the device is somewhere in the range of 10-15 Megawatts!!! The League has already been to Washington on the matter and is planning a letter to the President.

At the September 1979 W.A.R.C. convention, it is expected that several emerging African and Asian nations are planning to petition for the elimination of Amateur Radio for the purpose of obtaining the frequencies for their government's use. According to the ARRL, it will not happen,

HARMONICS, cont'd.....

and the possibility of acquiring 3 more bands for amateur use is quite probable.

Along the same line, the W.A.R.C. needs the help and support of Hams world wide. How can I help you ask; Well, I'll tell you: Purchase a 'Tune in the World with Ham Radio' bumper stickers, 99 cents of the \$1.00 cost goes to the W.A.R.C. Second and vitally important, OPERATE -- use all of the frequencies that we now have, give the W.A.R.C. some ammunition to take to Geneva in 1979. They can't very well ask for more space for Amateur Radio, when we are not using what we have now!!

The world wide QSL Bureau is in full swing for ARRL members and any number of cards can be sent for a dollar bill. All cards are shipped weekly to their destinations. See details in this issue elsewhere.

--DID YOU KNOW--

that ARRL membership is growing at the rate of 850-1000 new members weekly?

That the shipping department of the ARRL ships between 1200 and 2000 packages daily?

That W1AW receives between 35K and 51K pieces of mail per day?

That a new General Class course instructor guide will be available in February?

After the tour of the facilities was completed -- The real fun began! That of being W1AW for the afternoon.....

It was at this time that an event took place that will be remembered by all of us, and especially one of our younger members:

11 year old Tommy Kaplan made his operating debut as W1AW. Tom used the new Kenwood TS-900, and was so excited when he sat down in front of the rig, he was heard to query; "May I practice a little first?"

Tom had a bit of trouble getting started, but after some help from Chris, W1ALGA, Tom had a nice QSO with a WB4/O in Colorado-----Congratulations Tom.--- and by the way, look for Tom's picture in Stray's, in an upcoming issue of QST.

Some of the others that operated at W1AW were: W1LPQY, Bill, on 20 meter phone W1UTJ, Ed, 20 meter CW and phone. (Ed operated for 15 mins, and filled out QSL's for 45 mins); W1GXN, Paul, 2 mtr FM; W1WDD, Eric, 40 meter CW; and yours truly on 15 meter CW.

ARRL VISIT..cont'd.....

The trip, overall, was a great success and enjoyed by all that went. If you did not go, you missed a fun day, so plan on making the next trip with us to, WHOPEY ONE.....de Bob Arnold, W1UZZM AR

ANTENNA PARTY.....Oct. 30th, two dipoles went up. They were an all band Murch and a 40 meter monobander. One more will be raised just prior to Open House/QSO party and that will be a 20 meter antenna. We ran into a snag with the Selectmen in raising the towers as we had planned, as some structure design specification have to be submitted before we can do it. However, they did authorize us to have power installed to the Console at our own expense.

NOTE: Dick Magnanti, from our Novice class and also a member of the club, has volunteered to give us a hand in the power department as it is his field. The following people worked on the antenna raising party and were John Turrel, Dick Magnanti, Don Chesley, Bill Downing, Roger Wilmarth, Dave Curry, Chris Wiles, Adolpho Saldarriaga, and Joe McGrath. (Editors Note: it is indeed gratifying to see some new names in the volunteer department and I am sure all enjoyed the camaraderie of the club. Well Done to all.)

ARE YOU PROFICIENT AT THE CODE? Are you 17 years or older? Could you use some extra cash? The local area Naval Reserve is looking for a "few good men" to drill one weekend a month as a regular member of the Naval Reserve. There is no "Boot Camp" or prior active duty military requirement. Two weeks active duty each summer is a requirement however. But who couldn't use an all-expense paid vacation to somewhere in the world with a regular salary "to boot?" Also, you won't start out at the bottom of the ladder if your experience proves otherwise. You may enter as a Petty Officer with P.O. pay with PX and other privileges. If you're interested, Contact Jim Hatherley or Joe McGrath.

Do you have any old furniture lying around your house that you don't use. We are trying to gather up some housewares for our basement area so we can furnish it for club purposes. Rugs, chairs, tables, etc. We will pick up and repair if necessary, so again, give this a second look and see if you can help us in this project.

"The Decoder"

EDUCATIONAL COLUMN By Bill Downing WAI PQY

The ARRL has just come out with some eye-popping statistics in its "Instructors Newsletter",

"...more than 1500 courses in amateur radio are being taught right now. We expect the number to break 2,000 before the end of the year; The average class size is about 20, meaning that there are already around 30,000 students taking courses this fall! Wow! Keep it up, gang!"

NEED we say more, except that W.A.R.S. is gaining recognition within the League as a major contributor to the training effort.

Still no word on instructor certification, the Commission's answer to cutting the red tape in license processing. Apparently, the FCC is really mulling this one over, but we will let everyone know as soon as the news breaks. Incidentally, Chuck Weissel, WAIHRV, has noted quicker turnaround times in novice exam processing for our most recent novice class. A future trend, we hope.....

The League is hard at work preparing a General class licensing course, to be issued sometime in January. Chris Wiles, WAI RGA, provided the League with an educational package that he has developed specifically for teaching General classes. W.A.R.S. will be one of the first clubs to receive the ARRL General class Instructors materials.

Yes, we have received a response to the call for teachers. Several club members have volunteered to start a General/Technician class near the beginning of January and anyone interested in attending, should send a card to W.A.R.S., 324 Washington St Wellesley, Mass., 02181. Please indicate NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE, and PRESENT LICENSE held, if any. We will contact you before the start of the first class.

73's, Bill...

NEW NOVICES: (that we know about) David King WBIACH, Bruno Vasil WBIACF, Jim McGrath WBIACC and Maureen McGrath WBIACD.

On behalf of the club we would like to extend our heartiest CONGRATULATIONS and wish you all many years of happy hamming. Good Luck.

Activities

Events

VETERANS DAY PARADE IN WELLESLEY.....

By Walter Lenk, K1YTY.

As many of your know, our club has provided radio communications for the Veteran's Day parade for the past nine years. This kind of activity is important, because the club owes its existence to the kindness and generosity of the Wellesley Town officials who have provided us with our new club room. We need, therefore, to express our appreciation to the town by providing radio communications for Wellesley's Veteran's Day parades, and the towns Recreation Department's Annual Road Race in the Spring. Last, but not least, we should not forget support for Wellesley's Civil Defense programs. There is no reason why the Society cannot provide radio communications for many other activities, both public and private, that may arise from time to time, withing the town.

This year the Society's participation in the October 31st Veteran's Day Parade was a tremendous success! This year we had more members show up for the event, than in previous years. We were congratulated by several Town officials for the excellent job we did! Some of those taking part were WAI RGA, WAIHVS, K1YTY, WAI DMC, WAI GBF, WAI PQY, and WAI TAM. I am sure I have not mentioned everyone who showed up, and if so, please accept my apologies! All in all, it was a great day.

W.A.R.S. AREC NETS.....

For the past three years Walt Lenk, K1YTY, has run an AREC Net on 2 meter AM every Tuesday at 7:30 P.M. Due to the decline in 2 meter AM activity, Walt would like to organize an AREC Net through the Middlesex-Wellesley repeater. Walt plans to continue the AM net at 7:30 P.M. every Tuesday, followed by an AREC net on 96/36 beginning at 8:00 P.M. We hope you can check in to this net as it is for emergency conditions and the experience is very helpful should the real thing come along.

AREC...cont'd...

The purpose of the FM AREC Net will be to make sure our equipment is up to snuff in case of an emergency, and to discuss future Club activities. Don Chesley tells us that we have permission to use the repeater for this activity. Walt plans to start the first FM AREC Net on Tuesday, November 23rd at 8:00 P.M. Please mark the date and time in your Log, so you won't forget! 73's, Walter Lenk, K1YTY - - - -

HEARABOUTS:

Best wishes for a speed recovery go to Dick Weissel, W1HRV after his recent stay in a hospital for an operation. Dick is out and on the mend. Dick was on 2 meters during his stay in the hospital so he took his hobby with him and indeed, kept hammin.

MOVIE STARS. Most notably was Joe McGrath W1JIR for his steeplejack work on the high antenna of the 2 meter repeater. Also were Bill Downing W1PQY and Roger Wilmarth, W1RXV. We hope to show this film at the open house and you can see how these dare-devils braved the cold and the winds at over 100' to install the new antenna. Needless to say, the operation was most successful and we can now communicate to greater distances because of these guys. A HEARTY WELL DONE FELLOWS.

NOVICES--LOOKING FOR AWARDS?

Two of the first awards many Novices earn are the ARRL Rag Chewer Certificates, and the Lockheed Amateur Radio Club 10 Districts Award. To earn the RCC, all you need to do is engage in a two-way amateur contact of longer than 30 minutes, and report that contact to ARRL Headquarters. The handsome certificate is free to ARRL members--please send a large envelope for returning it.

The 10 Districts Award is earned by sending postmarked QSL cards (or cards with postmarked envelopes) from each of the 10 U.S. call districts, along with \$1.00 handling fee, to W6LS, 2814 Empire Avenue, Burbank, Calif., 91504. Your cards will be returned promptly, and a fine certificate will follow shortly. Endorsements are available to specify that all contacts were made on a single band (all 15 meters, etc).

SOME EDITIONS BACK IN THE SPARK GAP, We discussed the origin of the word HAM. This and other word origins are interesting and

ORIGINS...cont'd.....

now another comes to the fore, the use of ES in cw language for the word and. In the American Morse Code (not to be confused with International Morse), the ampersand (&) was send or es and thus it went over into amateur radio as es for And. Do you have any other interesting origins you would like to contribute to the GAP?

Incidentally, for those of you who don't know, 73 means 'best regards' and also originated in the old Telegraphers American Morse code used mostly by the railroads. If you ever get to rag chewing with some of the Old Timers on the bands, they will probably talk your ears off about some of these early beginnings. Interesting too!

NATICK MALL DAYS--DECEMBER 8-9-10 and 11.

Plans are reaching the final stages for this four day operation and we have had a good reply from volunteers but we still have room for more so in case you haven't signed up yet, it isn't too late. We can use you either from your home QTH or at the Mall itself. The hours of operation are, on Wed, Thurs. and Friday nights from 6:00 to 10:00 P.M. and on Saturday from 10:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. Let us know at the November 18th OPEN HOUSE if you care to join us in the fun. We are looking to pass upwards of one thousand Xmas message units and this means a lot of work for the club but also a barrel of fun nevertheless. We also have outside operators scheduled for the long haul traffic so it should be an interesting few days.

There will be a meeting of these volunteers for Natick Mall Days at the club some evening but at the moment I don't have a definite date set because of possible conflicting times of other club activities but I will keep you all informed. The meeting will be to refresh your memories on message and traffic handling. de Jim Hatherley, W1TBY.....AR

ONCE AGAIN, here it is, the new SPARK GAP, and we again invite you to be a part of this Tribunal by contributing your two cents worth whenever the occasion grabs you. You may not possibly agree with our aims and incentives and if so, you should air your grievances for all members to hear about. This invitation is an open one, so, whenever.....Let's hear from you.....DE THE STAFF.....

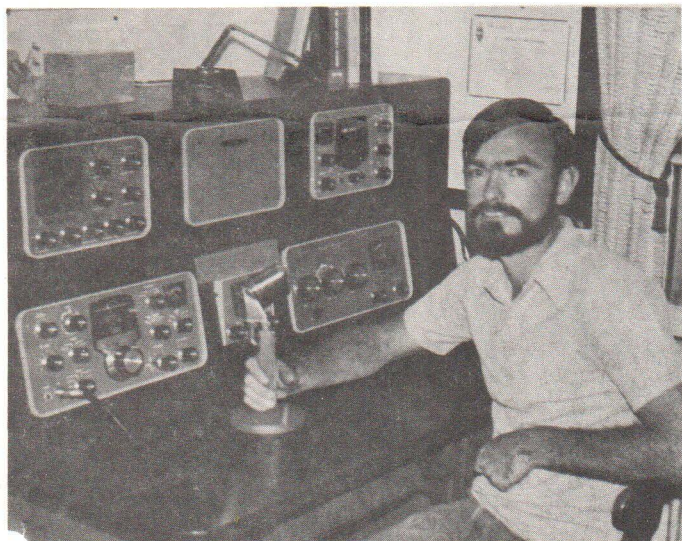
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profiles

by Bob Arnold, WAIUZZM

As an addition to the SPARK GAP, we are going to have a column profiling a member or a few members of our club each month.

Bob Arnold, WAIUZZM, has volunteered to write the column, so it is only fitting that we start off with him, so that everyone knows who is doing the articles.



Bob is one of the newest members of our club. He has been a Ham since June 1975, and although he was inactive for over a year, his interest in Amateur Radio was recently rekindled by Joe McGrath WAIJIR, and Bob has jumped in with both fists. Hi.

Bob is 28 years old, and is on active duty with the U.S. Navy, stationed at the Reserve Center in Quincy as an instructor. He has been in the Navy since '67 when he graduated from Edgewater High School in Orlando, Florida.

In addition to Ham Radio, Bob's hobbies include; Golf (18 hcp); Photography; and Carpentry. Since returning to the airways in September, Bob has 37 states toward WAS and has worked 7 DX stations.

As you can see from the photo, Bob's station is all Heathkit. Due to space limitations, Bob built his, into a neat little console, which sits on top of a desk in the Dining Room. He says it's quite nice to have his dinner in the Shack, although the mashed potatoes seem to foul his key. (Hi again).

PROFILES.....cont'd.....

Bob is married to the former Judy Strom of Groton, CT, and they have one child, Kimberly, 2 years old. We hope to see more of Bob in future editions of the GAP as he is quite adept at most things. He says that he built that console for a song and hopes to have the plans for it available to those of you who would like to do a similar encasing job. Pretty neat to say the least. Estimated costs about 20 buckaroos.

POLISH YOUR RIG AND SMILE, YOU MIGHT BE NEXT IN PROFILE

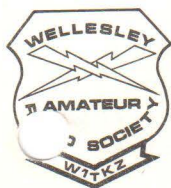
Finally, one last word, you are all invited to the OPEN HOUSE on the 18th and be sure to bring your families along so they can see what goes on at the WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY.

73's til next month,

Jim Hatherley WAI TBY
Editor(of sorts hi)

P.P.S. Remember to look into your attics, old store rooms, etc. for some of those items of furniture and furnishings that could grace our basement area.

The Spark Gap

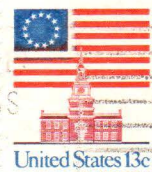


**WELLESLEY
AMATEUR RADIO
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200 YEARS
BUILDING AMERICA



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